
NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

17 March 2020

Cabinet

Title:	Proposals for Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure
Purpose:	To determine an application by Locality Partnerships to allocate CIF funding to proposed projects.
Recommendation:	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <p>a) Approves the CIF application in relation to Raise Your Voice with Ardeer from the Three Towns Locality Partnership, subject to the successful assembly of the full proposed funding package.</p>

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Within its budget for 2017-18, North Ayrshire Council provided a funding allocation for the creation of an innovative fund to enable communities to address the priorities they have identified through Locality Planning Partnerships and within the context of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership's Fair for All strategy.
- 1.2 Locality Partnerships have subsequently continued to work on their local action plans and are refining proposals for expenditure in line with their locally identified needs. This is a challenging process, and it is a testament to the dedication of the Locality Partnerships and their community partners that proposals are now emerging to provide creative approaches to addressing local challenges.
- 1.3 This report brings forward a proposal, which responds to the specific need of the local community and which has been developed based on local circumstances and opportunities.
- 1.4 This proposal has been approved to be submitted to Cabinet through a process of collaboration and consensus by the Locality Partnership.

2. Background

- 2.1 Within its budget for 2017-18, North Ayrshire Council provided an allocation for the creation of an innovative fund to enable communities to address the priorities they have identified through Locality Planning Partnerships and within the context of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership's Fair for All Strategy, to be distributed among

Localities as follows:

Locality	Population	Value
Irvine	29%	£754,000
Kilwinning	11%	£286,000
3 Towns	23%	£598,000
Garnock Valley	15%	£390,000
North Coast	18%	£468,000
Arran	4%	£104,000

2.2 It was agreed that the CIF will support proposals and projects that connect with:

- The North Ayrshire Fair for All Strategy;
- The Community Planning Partnership and Locality priorities; and
- North Ayrshire Council's values, priorities and business objectives.
- Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities;
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council;
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project;
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

2.3 The proposal development and application process has been agreed as follows:

- Locality Partnerships should continue to engage with their communities and stimulate interest in the CIF. Each Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round.'
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The finalised proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.

2.4 The enclosed application has been developed by community partners and North Ayrshire Council officers and is now recommended for approval by Cabinet. The proposal is as follows:

The Three Towns Locality Partnership

The allocation and funds committed to date are outlined in the table below:

The Three Towns Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£598 000
Ardrossan Community Development Trust	£25 000
Three Towns Growers	£100,000
The Training Station	£50,000
<i>Ardrossan Castle Community Heritage Hub (TBC)</i>	<i>£17, 912</i>
Balance	£405,088

Proposal: Raise Your Voice with Ardeer - Multi-function community facility: £100,000 (Appendix 1)

This application is in relation to the creation of premises to form a multi-function community facility. This has been identified through both the recent Three Towns charette and more direct community engagement by the organisation. Located at Shore Road, Stevenston Beach (beside the sports pitch, playground and carpark at the beach), the multi-function facility will provide local services to support tourism, community and environmental activities. The original project was to renovate an existing facilities and toilets, but this is not feasible, and this will allow the old facilities to be removed. The revised project has increased the original costs to £243,000, of which £50,000 has already been secured from the Town Centre Fund. Other potential funders are North Ayrshire Ventures Trust, The National Lottery Community Fund and Landfill Trust.

New facilities will include accessible toilets and baby-changing, outdoor education opportunities to develop awareness of biodiversity and outdoor learning. The multi-use building will allow environmental educational workshops to be more structured, weatherproof, and provide the opportunity to develop accredited qualification with local schools. This area can also be made available for the wider community use. This can become an income stream to support the charity. A café area will supply refreshments and snacks and the group is also qualified to deliver *cooking on a budget* classes. This area will also be used for the NA Foodbank's dignified food provision. The group are passionate about healthy food and food allergies and have developed experience which will help support others. This proposal addresses inequalities by addressing social isolation amongst older people, especially those affected by dementia, through a partnership with Musical Memory Lane. It aims to address food poverty through a partnership with NA Foodbank to provide dignified access to food. The group plans to develop and sell or hire out resources for outdoor activities, such as fishing nets, ball games, buckets and spades. As well as the social and environmental benefits the facilities aim to increase tourism and length of stay in the local area, with related economic impact.

3. Proposals

3.1 That Cabinet:

- a) Approves the CIF application in relation to Raise Your Voice with Ardeer from the Three Towns Locality Partnership, subject to the successful assembly of the full proposed funding package.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

- 4.1 CIF funding is allocated within existing resources. £50,000 has already been secured from the Town Centre Fund. The project intention is to leverage in to the area the balance of funding required for the project from external funding partners, such as The National Lottery Community Fund as outlined in the business plan.

Human Resources

- 4.2 None

Legal

- 4.3 None.

Equality/Socio-economic

- 4.4 The purpose of Locality Planning is to reduce inequalities, increase community cohesion and advance community empowerment. Each of the CIF proposals is tested against that purpose before being presented to Cabinet. This proposal addresses inequalities by addressing social isolation amongst older people, especially those affected by dementia, through Musical Memory Lane. It aims to address food poverty through a partnership with NA Foodbank to provide dignified access to food.

Environmental and Sustainability

- 4.5 This proposal will provide a base for the volunteer group who regularly clean Stevenston Beach and raise biodiversity and local environmental awareness through outdoor learning.

Key Priorities

- 4.6 The proposal contained within the report supports the North Ayrshire Council Plan priorities:
- Active and strong communities;
 - Inclusive, growing and enterprising local economy;
 - People enjoy good life-long health and wellbeing;
 - Vibrant and welcoming places; and
 - A sustainable environment.

Community Wealth Building

- 4.7 The application supports the following pillars of community wealth building:
- Creating volunteering and skills development opportunities;
 - Advancing community enterprises;
 - Advancing local ownership of underused land and building; and

- Supporting local business activities and increasing the variety of ownership models.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 The proposal contained within this report has been developed by the Three Towns Locality Partnership and through wider consultation with local people, including young people, during the Three Towns' Charrette and as a result of specific consultations carried out by the group.

Audrey Sutton
Interim Executive Director of Communities

For further information please contact **Rhona Arthur, Interim Head of Connected Communities**, on **01294 324415**.

Background Papers

Appendix 1: CIF Application: Multi-purpose facility – Raise Your Voice With Ardeer

Appendix 1: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Raise Your Voice with Ardeer</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Raise Your Voice with Ardeer are a registered charity (SC049391) since June 2019 and was running as a constituted community group prior to that forming in 2016.</p> <p>The aims of Raise Your Voice with Ardeer are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To advance the provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational facilities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended by providing easily accessible events/groups/activities and classes, where the community can come together and have fun, build friendships and in turn encourage each other in all aspects of life. • To advance the advancement of citizenship or community development by building confidence, creating a sense of belonging, to encourage community involvement and the sharing of skills/strengths within the community through a variety of activities/classes and groups. • To advance the prevention or relief of poverty by providing food at all events offered along with advice, support and referrals to specific services where appropriate. <p>Activities include Musical Memory Lane which has been running for two years. Musical Memory Lane is a very special, fun afternoon of music, tea and biscuits. Music and chat from a local musician combines with plenty of time for people to chat with friends and make new friends. Although the afternoon is Alzheimers and Dementia friendly there does not need to be a formal diagnosis to be able to attend. It is also open to anybody over the age of 50 and is run on a donation basis, however, a donation is not required to be able to attend.</p> <p>Raise Your Voice with Ardeer are currently working in joint partnership with North Ayrshire Foodbank to help deliver the Food Dignity Meals Scheme. This scheme gives people within the community 2 freshly cooked meals a day for 3 days.</p>
Locality	The Three Towns
Amount requested from CIF	£ 100,000
Brief overview of proposal	<p>Multi-function community facility</p> <p>This application is in relation to the creation of premises to form a multi-function community facility. This has been identified through both the recent Three Towns charette and more direct community engagement by the organisation. Located at Shore Road, Stevenston Beach (beside the sports pitch, playground and carpark at the beach), the multi-function facility will provide local services to support tourism, community and environmental</p>

	<p>activities. The original project was to renovate an existing facilities and toilets, but this is not feasible, and a new building will allow the old facilities to be removed. The revised project has increased the original costs to £243,000, of which £50,000 has already been secured from the Town Centre Fund. Other potential funders are North Ayrshire Ventures Trust, The National Lottery Community Fund and Landfill Trust.</p> <p>The proposal includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two gender-neutral toilets, with accessible toilet and baby changing area. This beach is used by locals and tourists twelve months of the year. There is no toilet provision and this restricts the types and times of events. Toilets will allow people to have more time to enjoy the activities, views and education opportunities. • Outdoor education opportunities as the beach is an environmental outdoor classroom, which is recognised nationally for its biodiversity and outdoor learning. Educational workshops are currently run with the support (including financial) of local businesses, schools and youth groups, however there is no wet weather shelter. The multi-use building will allow the environmental educational workshops to be more structured, weatherproof, and the opportunity to develop accredited qualification with local schools. • This area can also be used wider community use. This can become an income to support the charity. • The café area will supply refreshments and snacks and the group is also qualified to deliver <i>cooking on a budget</i> classes. This area will also be used for the NA Foodbank's dignified food provision. The group is passionate about healthy food, and food allergies and has developed a great amount of experience which will help support others. This will contribute income for sustainability. • The group plans to develop and sell or hire out resources for outdoor activities, such as fishing nets, ball games, buckets and spades. <p>The premises will be open to anybody within the community, such as dog walkers, local schools, NAC Rangers, tourists and beach users. There have been community events, such as the Nature Reserves' 25th Anniversary and Family Fun Days and these will be able to be developed further with community organisations. There has even been a St Bernard's birthday party with St Bernard dogs attending from all over Scotland.</p> <p>The main beneficiaries of the building would be the local community within Stevenston, the dog walkers and local and tourist beach users. The addition of toilets will increase tourism and length of stay, with related economic impact. With tourism comes increased investment of the services within Stevenston which will benefit the local community.</p> <p>Partners include: FRIENDS environmental group in Stevenston, Stevenston Community Council, Stevenston Community Development Trust (Steering Group), Stevenston Community Association, Primary schools, Secondary schools, BPI, Tesco, Sainsburys and NAC.</p>
Timescales	From March 2020
Contact details	<p>Shirley Morgan – Locality Partnership Coordinator 01294 475912 smorgan@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>